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To:

From:

CC:

Date: 7/30/2014 2:38:23 PM Subject: OPA Daily Digest 7/30/14

OPA Daily Digest for 7/30/14

Congressional Inquiries:

Sen. Charles Grassley (Iowa) – Letter – 7/24/14: Abandoned school site contaminated with asbestos in Letts, Iowa. Due: 7/24/14. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

Sen. Claire McCaskill (Mo.); Sen. Roy Blunt (Mo.); Rep. William Lacy Clay (Mo.); Rep. Ann Wagner (Mo.) – Letter – 7/18/14: West Lake Landfill. Due: 8/1/14. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (closed)

State Government Inquiries:

Sen. Gary Romine, Sen. Doug Libla, Sen. Gina Walsh, Rep. Paul Wieland, Rep. Paul Fitzwater, Rep. TJ McKenna – Letter – 7/25/14: Express concerns about characterization of many areas of Missouri as "contaminated." Due: 8/7/14. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (open)

Press Inquiries:

E-Scrap News – Bobby Elliott – 7/29/14: Questions regarding cathode ray tube (CRT) recycling by Doe Run Corp. in their secondary lead smelter. Referral from Missouri DNR. Contact: David Bryan, 7433 (open)

St. Louis Post-Dispatch – Blythe Bernhard – 7/30/14: Questions about timing of EPA's release of final report of radiation survey at Bridgeton Municipal Athletic Complex in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

KWMU Public Radio – Veronique LaCapra – 7/30/14: Questions about timing of EPA's release of final report of radiation survey at Bridgeton Municipal Athletic Complex in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

Webb City (Mo.) Sentinel – Bob Foos – 7/30/14: Questions about new cleanup activity near Neck City, Mo., related to Oronogo-Duenweg Superfund Site. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (open)

Associated Press – Nelson Lampe – 7/30/14: Questions about settlement with Archer Daniels Midland Company. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (closed)

BNA – Chris Brown - 7/30/14: Questions about settlement with Archer Daniels Midland Company. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (closed)

Environmental Stories:

Kansas City Star - Public's input sought on expanding Tomahawk Creek Wastewater Plant - 7/29/14 - The Johnson County Commission on Thursday will conduct a public hearing on the first spending for a proposed expansion of the Tomahawk Creek Wastewater Plant in Leawood. http://www.kansascity.com/news/local/community/joco-913/article824073.html

KCTV Ch. 5 Kansas City - Obama pushes economic agenda in Kansas City - 7/30/14 - President Barack Obama is touring the country pushing his economic agenda ahead of the midterm elections, and it was the focus of speech Wednesday at Kansas City's historic Uptown Theater. Speech. http://www.kctv5.com/story/26149425/downtown-buzzing-ahead-of-president-obamas-speech

WDAF Ch. 4 Kansas City - President Obama in Kansas City: America deserves a raise - 7/30/14 - More than a thousand people packed the Uptown Theater Wednesday to hear President Barack Obama speak in Kansas City, Mo. The topics most prevalent in the President's speech: the economy, healthcare and Congress, of which he dealt a few jabs. http://fox4kc.com/2014/07/30/president-obama-addresses-minimum-wage-during-speech-in-kansas-city/

Kansas City Star - Obama tackles economy, cynicism in Kansas City speech - 7/30/14 - President Barack Obama worked to rally public support for his economic policies Wednesday in a Kansas City speech that expressed worry about the nation's gap between rich and poor. http://www.kansascity.com/news/government-politics/article832236.html

KMBC Ch. 9 Kansas City - President Obama thrills KC crowd in Uptown Theater speech - 7/30/14 - President Barack Obama thrilled a crowd of about 1,500 at Kansas City's Uptown Theater as he delivered a speech on the economy Wednesday. http://www.kmbc.com/news/president-obama-thrills-kc-crowd-in-uptown-theater-speech/27224836

Des Moines Register - Archer Daniels Midland agrees to settle EPA complaints - 7/30/14 - Archer Daniels Midland Co. settled allegations that it violated the federal Clean Water Act for failing to have response plans ready in case of a large-scale spill at five oil storage facilities at five locations that include Des Moines and Cedar Rapids. http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/money/agriculture/green-fields/2014/07/30/adm-pays-civil-penalty-for-failing-to-have-spill-response-plans/13365055/

Associated Press - Archer Daniels Midland settles EPA allegations - 7/30/14 - Federal regulators say Archer Daniels Midland Co. has agreed to settle allegations that it violated Clean Water Act rules at oil storage facilities in Iowa, Missouri and Nebraska. http://www.stltoday.com/business/local/archer-daniels-midland-settles-epa-allegations/article_a939f6b3-7a8f-50c1-9e4e-faad919a5183.html

Joplin Globe - Riverton School Board sending letter of opposition on Galena landfill plan - 7/29/14 - During a special Board of Education meeting Tuesday night in Riverton, members discussed the district's involvement in preventing a proposed landfill from being built about two miles from the school. http://www.joplinglobe.com/local/x657237394/Riverton-School-Board-sending-letter-of-opposition-on-Galena-landfill-plan

Freemont Tribune - Opinion: Johanns charges EPA with Murky Water Rule - 7/29/14 - EPA has a long way to go to improve its strained relationship with the ag community. Administrator McCarthy acknowledged that she needs to do a better job of working with producers. If she is sincere in this desire, she would scrap this flawed proposal and engage in a robust discussion with America's farmers and ranchers before pursuing new, potentially-burdensome regulations. http://fremonttribune.com/cass-news/opinion/johanns-charges-epa-with-murky-water-rule/article_6a07320b-1123-5741-9a32-ff3c3772d054.html

Quad-City Times - Braley, allies attack Ernst's Big Oil money connection - 7/29/14 - Joni Ernst came marching home from her annual National Guard training into the teeth of an attack on her lack of support for lowa's renewable fuel industry. http://qctimes.com/news/local/government-and-politics/elections/braley-allies-attack-ernst-s-big-oil-money-connection/article_edc4433a-1264-539a-843a-78226244974e.html

KWMU St. Louis Public Radio - Peabody Asks EPA To Withdraw Carbon Emissions Proposal - 7/29/14 - Peabody Energy is asking the Environmental Protection Agency to withdraw its proposed carbon emission rules. The St. Louis-based coal company took part in the EPA's hearings on the rule Tuesday morning in Washington D.C. http://news.stlpublicradio.org/post/peabody-asks-epa-withdraw-carbon-emissions-proposal

NRDC Switchboard (blog) - EPA's Denver hearing on the Clean Power Plan: My comments - 7/29/14 - This morning I attended the sold-out EPA hearing in Denver on the proposed Clean Power Plan. From what I saw, most of the crowd and speakers were overwhelmingly in favor of strong and effective standards to cut carbon pollution. http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/nlong/epa hearing on teh clean power.html

Washington Times - EPA hears testimony on proposed carbon emissions rules (video) - The atmosphere outside was festive, with music, free T-shirts and ice cream giveaways, but the mood inside the Environmental Protection Agency's first hearings on it proposed power plant regulations was anything but. http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/jul/29/epa-hears-testimony-on-proposed-carbon-emissions-r/

Washington Post - Competing visions of cataclysm at an EPA hearing - 7/29/14 - On one side were the enviros in "Climate Action Now" T-shirts who came to pass out muffins and stand up for asthmatics. On the other side of the hearing at the Environmental Protection Agency were the reps for coal companies and coal states who said her constituents see the proposed rule as "condemning our miners to lives of poverty and despair." http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/a-plan-to-force-power-plants-to-cut-pollution-draws-strong-opinions-at-an-epa-hearing/2014/07/29/0c59cafe-1742-11e4-9349-84d4a85be981_story.html

The Hill - Green groups press EPA on climate rule - 7/29/14 - Environmental groups say a controversial rule that would cut carbon emissions at existing power plants does not go far enough to protect against the harmful effects of climate change. http://thehill.com/regulation/213711-environmental-groups-press-epa-on-climate-rule

Fox Business - Advocates line up to cheer or jeer new EPA power plant pollution rules at Denver hearing - 7/29/14 - Hundreds of people will tell the Environmental Protection Agency what they think of proposed rules to cut pollution from power plants during public hearings Tuesday and Wednesday in Denver. With just five minutes each to make their case to the EPA, opponents and supporters also are staging rallies around the city. http://www.foxbusiness.com/markets/2014/07/29/advocates-line-up-to-cheer-or-jeer-new-epa-power-plant-pollution-rules-at/

Reuters - U.S. EPA kicks off hearings on power plant emissions rules - 7/29/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency launched public hearings on Tuesday on its proposal to slash carbon emissions from the country's power plants, and interested groups ranging from coal miners to senators made their views known. http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/07/29/us-climatechange-usa-plan-idUSKBN0FY2EG20140729

New York Times - Will Fiction Influence How We React to Climate Change? (Online Debate) - 7/29/14 - A sub-genre of science fiction that explores the possible, often catastrophic, effects of climate change is gaining in popularity and has even been added to some university curriculums. Will these "cli-fi" movies and novels make a difference in how people react to global warming? Six writers join the online debate. http://www.nytimes.com/roomfordebate/2014/07/29/will-fiction-influence-how-we-react-to-climate-change

Think Progress - Fossil Fuel-Funded Groups Organizing Public Rallies Against New EPA Climate Rule - 7/28/14 - Starting Tuesday, anyone who objects to new proposed federal regulations to cut carbon emissions from power plants can make their complaints public — and opponents of the rules are lining up to take a shot. http://thinkprogress.org/climate/2014/07/28/3464833/epa-hearings-fossil-fuel-public-rallies/

The Hill (blog) - Investing in wind brings affordable, reliable power and prosperity - 7/30/14 - Common-sense, market-based federal and state policies are why wind power is now the mainstream source of electricity it is today. http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/energy-environment/213691-investing-in-wind-brings-affordable-reliable-power-and

Mother Jones - Conservatives Say Obama Is Fighting A "War On Coal." They're Wrong. – 7/29/14 - It is common for the coal industry and its conservative allies in politics and media to complain that President Obama is waging a "war on coal." It is certainly true that the share of American energy that comes from coal is declining. Obama doesn't actually deserve much of the credit for that. http://www.motherjones.com/environment/2014/07/conservatives-war-coal-obama-wrong

Christian Science Monitor - How many solar panels would it take to power Earth? - 7/29/14 - What would a world powered by solar energy alone look like? According to one study, it would need to be enough solar panels to fill an area about the size of West Virginia. http://www.csmonitor.com/Environment/Energy-Voices/2014/0729/How-many-solar-panels-would-it-take-to-power-Earth

New Republic - People Are Literally Praying For Coal - 7/29/14 - On Monday, a couple of Alabama officials opened a public meeting with a religious prayer—for the coal industry. "I hope all the citizens of Alabama will be in prayer that the right thing will be done," an official said, referring to the Environmental Protection Agency's climate rule to cut carbon emissions from power plants. http://www.newrepublic.com/article/118896/alabama-officials-pray-coal-week-epa-climate-hearings

Lincoln Journal Star (Neb.) - Editorial: Sharing in a solar future - 7/28/14 - The Lincoln Electric System will soon sell you a share of the sun. Well, actually not the sun. But, the utility's SunShares program, to be launched Saturday at the Farmers Market on Canopy Street will allow customers to invest in a community solar energy project that will harness the sun's rays to create electrical power. http://journalstar.com/news/opinion/editorial/editorial-sharing-in-a-solar-future/article_6920ce76-28b3-5b10-a7b1-ba9f792d1b81.html

The Hill - Iowa GOP hopeful wants higher ethanol mandate - 7/29/14 - Iowa Republican Senate candidate Joni Ernst asked the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Tuesday to increase the amount of ethanol and biodiesel refiners must use, a day after she was accused of not supporting the mandate that is popular among Iowa farmers. http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/213697-iowa-gop-hopeful-wants-higher-ethanol-mandate

New York Times - Religious Conservatives Embrace Proposed EPA Rules - 7/30/14 - The Rev. Lennox Yearwood punched his fist in the air as he rhythmically boomed into the microphone: "This is a moment for great leadership. This is a moment for our country to stand up. This is our moment." But Mr. Yearwood's audience was not a church. It was the Environmental Protection Agency. http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/31/us/religious-conservatives-embrace-proposed-epa-rules.html

Denver Post - Denver EPA hearing fires debate over costs of cutting carbon — or not - 7/30/14 - The federal proposal to cut coal-fired power-plant carbon emissions will affect the nation's economy — and witnesses at a Denver hearing Tuesday sparred over just what it will mean. http://www.denverpost.com/business/ci_26239233/denver-epa-hearing-fires-debate-over-costs-cutting

Denver Post - Denver protests over proposed EPA power-plant rules stoked by politics - 7/30/14 - Hundreds of people, many of them coal miners and power company employees, rallied near the Colorado Capitol Tuesday against proposed rules to cut power-plant emissions, saying the regulations would kill coal jobs and raise power bills. http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_26238611/denver-protests-over-proposed-epa-power-plant-rules

Union of Concerned Scientists (blog) - Me to the EPA: Increase Renewables, Limit Carbon, and Protect Coal Miners - 7/30/14 - I have a unique perspective on reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the burning of fossil fuels. As a scientist, I understand the urgency to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to protect the planet's climate. As the brother, son, and grandson of West Virginia coal miners, the question of how we go about tackling climate change is deeply personal to me. http://blog.ucsusa.org/me-to-epa-increase-renewables-limit-carbon-and-protect-coal-miners-606

Power Magazine - EPA Public Hearing on Carbon Pollution Standards Draws More "Public" than Power Industry Speakers - 7/30/14 - Interest in the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) carbon pollution standards for existing power plants—the "Clean Power Plan," proposed under the authority of the Clean Air Act Section 111(d)—was so high that the agency had to add double the days and double the rooms at all four locations this week. At all locations, power industry speakers were in the minority. http://www.powermag.com/59958/

Washington Times - Al Gore's climate-changers at EPA hearings foiled by cool temperatures - 7/30/14 - The Climate Reality Project, founded by former Vice President Al Gore, launched its "I'm Too Hot" campaign last week as "a rallying point for action in the face of rising temperatures driven by climate disruption," according to the press release. http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/jul/30/al-gores-climate-changers-epa-hearings-foiled-cool/

Fox News - Passions heated over proposed EPA rule on plant emissions - 7/30/14 - As a part of its controversial proposed rule to limit carbon emissions from existing power plants, the EPA held simultaneous public comment sessions in Washington, Atlanta and Denver Tuesday. The comments, designed to help shape the formulation of the final rule, may have complicated that task, given the often diametrically opposed opinions expressed. http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2014/07/30/passions-heated-over-proposed-epa-rule-on-plant-emissions/

Think Progress - Legislators, Corporations Gather For Secret Meeting Against Clean Energy And You're Not Invited - 7/28/14 - The American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) can now return its attention to the low-profile war it's waging for several years to keep renewable energy from gaining territory and promoting fossil fuel production across the

country. http://thinkprogress.org/climate/2014/07/28/3461743/alec-annual-meeting-energy-climate/

Associated Press - Terror threats at chemical plants underestimated - 7/30/14 - The government is underestimating the threat of a chemical attack on America's densely populated cities and has failed to inspect virtually all of the chemical facilities that it considers particularly vulnerable to terrorists, congressional investigators say. http://gctimes.com/business/terror-threats-at-chemical-plants-underestimated/article-64aaea43-0d2b-5533-ba24-a726e33adceb.html

Associated Press - How to fit a wind farm into your portfolio - 7/30/14 - You can now fit a wind or solar farm into your portfolio, even if your portfolio isn't exactly vast. Energy companies are wrapping renewable energy projects and other power-related assets that generate steady cash into new companies they hope attract investors hunting for dividends. http://qctimes.com/business/how-to-fit-a-wind-farm-into-your-portfolio/article_73b77e25-6053-554c-86e8-489beee88002.html

E&E Daily - EPA carbon proposal could end in 'jurisdictional train wreck' -- regulator - 7/30/14 - A state's plan to comply with the proposed U.S. EPA rules on carbon emissions from existing power plants could pit two federal regulators against each other because of the interconnected nature of the nation's electricity grid, a member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission said yesterday. https://www.eenews.net/eedaily/stories/1060003753/

E&E Daily - Senate panel clashes on cost vs. benefit of mitigation - 7/30/14 - Democrats continued to make the argument yesterday that climate inaction isn't free, inviting witnesses whose livelihoods are threatened by warming to brief a Senate Environment and Public Works subcommittee. http://www.eenews.net/eedaily/stories/1060003757/

E&E News PM - Agency meeting most climate goals, record keeping needs work -- IG - 7/30/14 - U.S. EPA has exceeded its goals for slashing greenhouse gas emissions and water use at its facilities but needs to do a better job ensuring its conservation data are accurate, according to the agency's watchdog. http://www.eenews.net/eenewspm/stories/1060003722/

Greenwire - Utilities slump despite economic recovery - 7/30/14 - Electricity sales are down across the country as customers use less energy and more efficient equipment, forcing utilities to rethink their century-old business models. http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1060003782/

Greenwire - Trees soak up contaminants, provide \$7B in U.S. health benefits a year -- study - 7/30/14 - Trees save more than 850 lives and prevent 670,000 cases of acute respiratory symptoms a year by soaking up dirty air, according to a new federal study. http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1060003790/

Greenwire - DOE efforts to curb methane not enough -- advocates - 7/30/14 - Climate activists yesterday applauded the Energy Department's announcement of first steps to reduce methane leakage from oil and natural gas systems, but they asked both DOE and U.S. EPA to also promulgate mandatory regulations for the potent greenhouse gas. http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1060003792/

Greenwire - R&D office struggles to define its mission in climate initiative - 7/30/14 - As U.S EPA promotes its landmark plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions at existing power plants, the agency's research office is struggling to define its climate change mission. http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1060003783/

Greenwire - Proliferation of top-job vacancies and no end in sight - 7/30/14 - U.S. EPA is on the verge of having more vacancies than Senate-confirmed officials in its top jobs. The departures of two veteran EPA leaders -- second-in-command Bob Perciasepe and top human resources official Craig Hooks -- will leave eight of the agency's 14 key political posts vacant. http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1060003793/

Greenwire - DOE signs onto multiagency aviation biofuel effort - 7/30/14 - The Department of Energy is joining a multiagency effort to fast-track the development of aviation biofuels. DOE Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy David Danielson yesterday said the department would lend its expertise to "Farm to Fly," a joint initiative of the departments of Agriculture and Transportation. http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1060003789/

Press Releases:

Link to all R7 press releases: http://go.usa.gov/Qx5

Two Kansas City Groups to Receive \$119,940 from EPA's Urban Waters Small Grants Program for Focus on Middle Blue River - 7/30/14 - Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394

Settlement of Clean Water Act Violations Aims to Prevent Future Oil Spills by Archer Daniels Midland Company - 7/30/14 - Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

Fact Sheets:

Link to all R7 fact sheets: http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets

Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:

* New additions noted with an asterisk

7/31/14 - Missouri Environmental & Energy Conference at the Lake, Osage Beach, Mo. Contact: David Cozad, 7587

8/6/14 - St. Louis Regional Chamber of Commerce Meeting (Clean Power Plan), St. Louis, Mo. Contact: David Bryan, 7433

8/11/14 - Black & Veatch Greenhouse Gas Strategies Forum (Clean Power Plan), Kansas City, Mo. Contact: David Bryan, 7433

8/13/14 – Iowa Association of Business & Industry (Clean Power Plan), Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: David Bryan, 7433

*8/14/14 - Agricultural Outreach, Sedalia, Mo. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

*9/3/14 - Nancy Stoner and Mike Shapiro Visit R7, Regional Office. Contact: Karen Flournoy, 7782

*9/10/14 - Kansas City Steel Redevelopment/Walmart Grand Opening, Kansas City, Kan. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

*9/10/14 – U.S. Health & Human Services Senior Leadership Meeting (Clean Power Plan),s Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

DRA:

8/20/14 - Tribal Consultation Training, Regional Office. Contact: Heather Hamilton, 7039

RA/Immediate Office

None

Other Events

AWMD

None

CNSL

None

ECO/EJ
None
ENSV
None
PLMG
None
RA/OPA
9/29-30/14 - Healthy Schools Outreach, Missouri School Plant Managers' Association Conference, Four Seasons, Lake of the Ozarks, Mo. Contact: Kathleen Fenton, 7874 and Harry Diesel, 7382
SUPR
None
WWPD
7/30/14 – Water Quality Standards Stakeholder Meeting with Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Jefferson City, Mo. Contact: Bob Angelo, 7060
7/31/14 – Speech on Waters of the U.S. at the Environmental Conference at the Lake, Osage Beach, Mo. Contact: Steve Kovac, 7698
7/31/14 - Worker Protection Standard Stakeholder Meeting; Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Katie Howard, 7861
8/18-21/14 – Purdue Pesticide Program Certification and Training Workshop, Indianapolis, Ind. Contact: Douglas Jones, 7592
8/20/14 – Water Quality Standards Triennial Review with Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: John Reyna, 7021

Des Moines Register

Archer Daniels Midland agrees to settle EPA complaints

By Donnelle Eller 7/30/14

Archer Daniels Midland Co. settled allegations that it violated the federal Clean Water Act for failing to have response plans ready in case of a large-scale spill at five oil storage

facilities at five locations that include Des Moines and Cedar Rapids.

Archer Daniels Midland Co. settled allegations that it violated the federal Clean Water Act for failing to have response plans ready in case of a large-scale spill at five oil storage facilities at five locations that include Des Moines and Cedar Rapids.

The Decatur, Ill., food processing and commodities trading company, also agreed to pay a \$430,000 civil penalty, implement its response plans, and meet permit requirements, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said. The company is required to report on its efforts to meet the requirements for three years.

The Clean Water Act requires facilities that store large quantities of oil to develop response plans that outline procedures for addressing "worst-case" discharges of oil, EPA said. By being prepared and by conducting required response drills, facilities are better situated to prevent environmental harm from such releases.

Each of the five ADM facilities -- Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Columbus, Neb.; Des Moines, Iowa; Mexico and Deerfield, both in Missouri -- produces and stores more than 1 million gallons of oil. Combined, the facilities have a total estimated storage capacity of more than 36 million gallons.

EPA identified the lack of a response plan during a spill prevention inspection in 2008 at ADM's Cedar Rapids facility. ADM committed to develop and submit an response plan, but failed to do so for the Cedar Rapids facility and three additional facilities until almost two years later in 2010. ADM's Deerfield, Mo., facility also operated for a period in 2011 and 2012 without a required updated plan.

"The penalty imposed reflects the serious nature of noncompliance with these important requirements," said Karl Brooks, EPA Region 7 administrator. "Proper preparation for spills and emergencies can help avoid large-scale environmental disasters."

EPA said the settlement also resolves violations of the industrial stormwater requirements of three Clean Water Act operating permits issued to ADM for the Cedar Rapids, Columbus, and Deerfield facilities. The violations included ADM's failure to implement best management practices at its facilities, failure to conduct and record site inspections, exceeding permitted effluent limits, and unauthorized discharges of non-stormwater into U.S. waterways.

Benjamin M. Washburn Public Affairs Specialist EPA Region 7 (913) 551-7364